

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 07576 310959Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01 /096 W

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P R 310842Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3461

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

USCINCEUR

/SIXTHFLT

USNAVEUR LONDON

FOSIF ROTA SPAIN

UNCLAS MADRID 7576

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SP, MO, SS

SUBJ: SPANISH SAHARA: KING HASSAN INTERVIEWED BY SPANISH PAPER

1. OCT 30 EDITION OF EVENING PAPER "INFORMACIONES" (INDEPENDENT) HAS INTERVIEW WITH KING HASSAN, THE FIRST EVER GIVEN TO SPANISH JOURNALIST ACCORDING TO KING'S OWN STATEMENT.

2. HASSAN TOLD INTERVIEWER OCT 29 THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TOTALK ABOUT POSITIVE RESULTS IN BILATERAL TALKS WITH SPAIN. TALKS, HE SAID, OPENED BROAD HORIZONS IN SPANISH-MOROCCAN COLLABORATION IN WHICH NO SUBJECT IS EXCLUDED. ASKED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF FRANCO'S ILLNESS ON THE TALKS, HASSAN REPLIED THAT BOTH COUNTRIES' INTERESTS WERE ABOVE THEIR HEADS OF STATE.

3. HASSAN SAID THAT IT WOULD BE A CONTRADICTION TO ALLOW
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FOR AUTONOMY FOR THE SAHARA WITHIN MOROCCO BECAUSE IT WOULD

AMOUNT TO ACCEPTING A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT POWER. MOROCCO
WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SAFEGUARD LOCAL SAHARAN
TRADITIONS TO PREVENT A SOCIAL UPHEAVAL; IN KING'S WORDS,
SAHARANS HAD LIVED TOO LONG SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF
MOROCCO.

4. WITH RESPECT TO THE GREEN MARCH HASSAN SAID THAT THE
OUTCOME OF THE TALKS WITH SPAIN WOULD NECESSARILY INFLUENCE
THE "FORM OF THE MARCH." IF AGREEMENT IS REACHED, KING
HOPED THAT A SPANISH OFFICIAL WOULD MEET HIM AT THE BORDER
AND ACCOMPANY HIM TO EL AIUUN. HASSAN SAID PRESENT PLANS
CALLED FOR MARCH TO GET UNDERWAY BETWEEN NOVEMBER 4 AND 6.
FRONT-PAGE SUMMARY SUGGESTS THAT KING INDICATED THAT MARCH WOULD
GO AHEAD WHATEVER HAPPENS. BUT THE PRESS TEXT OF HASSAN'S
REMARKS IS NOT CLEAR ON THIS CRUCIAL POINT.
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NNN

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